

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 94 17:32:09 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #677
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Fri, 17 Jun 94 Volume 94 : Issue 677

Today's Topics:

 "73's"
 "Renewal" reusable alkaline batteries (3 msgs)
 220 -- Boston to Cape Cod
 Datapoint for NJ Ham plates
 FCC licensing delay reason
 Henry Radio Service phone number
 Icom 22-S info needed
 Simplex spaving on 2mtr
 Tech+ license issued.
 Waiting Period
 Wanted: ND Frequencies for...
 Yaesu phone no.???
 You know its time to retire from the hobby when....

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 17 Jun 1994 20:08:05 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!news.kei.com!ssd.intel.com!chnews!cmoore@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: "73's"
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Dave Bushong (dbushong@wang.com) wrote:

: Since the term "73's" came from CB, as did
: so many N#xxx callsign owners, I would expect that eventually they

: would get tired of being made fun of by us grownups for saying stupid
: things on the air. Dave, KZ10

Dave, my 1957 ARRL Handbook lists the meaning of 73 as "Best Regards"...
and also lists 26.93-27.23 MHz as a ham band. :-)

73, KG7BK, 00TC, CecilMoore@delphi.com

Date: 17 Jun 1994 18:44:38 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!mvb.saic.com!MathWorks.Com!news.kei.com!ub!csn!
news.sinet.slb.com!news.San-Jose.ate.slb.com!jones@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: "Renewal" reusable alkaline batteries
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

George Cornelius (cornelius@eisner.decus.org) wrote:
: I am interested in information about Rayovac "Renewal" reusable alkaline
: batteries.
[...]
: Does anyone have experience with them or understand how they work? Is
: it possible to charge them yourselves, or are the specs for doing so
: being kept quiet by the manufacturer?

I've been using them since they first hit the market. One major problem
is that the AA size is only rated at 700mA peak current, and the typical
HT pulls a little over 1A at high power xmit. My experience is that this
significantly cuts down on the power output from an HT. However, if
you are using an HT to mostly monitor (mine pulls about 60mA with squelch
closed, about 120mA with squelch open at full volume), they work fine.

They have very low self-discharge rate. Ray-O-Vac claims 5 yrs, but I
haven't measured it (yet ;-).

Occasionally you'll run into a cell that the charger "never turns off" for.
Also, the recharge times in the literature seem pretty optimistic, at least
in my experience. (5 hours is the stated time for AA, but mine often take
nearly a day.)

The literature implies that the charger pulses the cells at 120Hz (gee...
wonder how they generate that! ;-) and measures the voltage between pulses,
shutting off when the cells are fully charged.

Every pack of them has an 800 number you can call. Ask them to send you
the data sheets. (Sorry, I don't have the number here.)

My recommendation is that they are good for places where a typical NiCd
would last at least 5 hours _under worst conditions_ (like with the xmit

button down at high power - so the typical HT is not a good candidate), and where the typical alkaline battery would last less than 1 year of "normal" service. (If it lasts longer than 1 year, probably cheaper to just use normal alks.)

My biggest complaint is that they aren't available in the 9V size - I've got a lot of applications where a 9V Renewal would be ideal. (Due to the need to control each cell's charge separately, don't hold your breath on seeing one soon, either.)

My only connection with Ray-O-Vac is as a (fairly) satisfied customer. ;-)

Clark

--

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed above are mine and not those of Schlumberger because they are NOT covered by the patent agreement!

Phone: (602) 345-3638 Internet: jones@San-Jose.ate.slb.com
Packet: KI7TU@K7BUC.AZ.USA.NA RF: KI7TU
Snail: Clark Jones, Schlumberger Technologies, 7855 S. River Pkwy #116, Tempe,
AZ 85284-1825

Date: 17 Jun 1994 18:27:36 -0400
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!MathWorks.Com!panix!
not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: "Renewal" reusable alkaline batteries
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2tsqum\$266@k2.san-jose.ate.slb.com>,
Clark Jones <jones@San-Jose.ate.slb.com> wrote:
>

>Occasionally you'll run into a cell that the charger "never turns off" for.

According to Rayovac, who replaced several of my cells for this problem, the early batches were prone to develop internal shorts after a few cycles. Send them back.

>The literature implies that the charger pulses the cells at 120Hz (gee...
>wonder how they generate that! ;-)) and measures the voltage between pulses,
>shutting off when the cells are fully charged.

Actually it varies the duty cycle from about 70% (if I remember) down to zero as the voltage rises. When the duty cycle falls to 25% the LED goes out. However, since the big and small chargers have different peak current, a 25% duty cycle will deliver different amounts of current when the light goes out. The only way you'll get full capacity after removing

the cells immediately after the light goes out, is to use the big charger only for C and D cells. If you charge Aa/AAA's leave them in overnight.

--

Mike Schuster | schuster@panix.com | 70346.1745@CompuServe.COM
----- | schuster@shell.portal.com | GEnie: MSCHUSTER

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 1994 13:41:25 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!nshore!seastar!jjw@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: "Renewal" reusable alkaline batteries
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

As quoted from <2tq6g4\$kka@agate.berkeley.edu> by kennish@kabuki.EECS.Berkeley.EDU
(Ken A. Nishimura):

<on the subject of Renewal batteries>

> My humble and personal opinion:
>
> They are not suited well for amateur use. They have a relatively
> short cycle life (25 cycles), with degrading capacity after
> 5 cycles. The internal impedance is quite high, so that if
> you count on them to supply 1A of power, the terminal voltage
> will fall significantly. They have a sloping discharge characteristic,
> so the last 50% of the cell capacity is supplied at 1.15V and less.
> They can't be quick charged.
>
> They are probably OK, for occasional use, where you may want to
> use alkalines in the first place. But, for everyday cycling
> use, get NiCds.
>
> -Ken

And after 25 re-charges they have degraded to *only as much* capacity as a nicad has. The roll-off of voltage gives you some indication that your batteries are dying, so you can finish a conversation before replacing them. You can leave them in a scanner for several months, and still expect them to be darned near to fully functional when you need it. They don't develop internal shorts that make you think your pack is charged but it dies instantly when you use it.

The down side is they ain't worth squat in high-current applications. If you *must* ALWAYS run your HT on the highest power setting, these are not for you. I've had very good luck with them in a DJ-580 on medium and low power, even accidentally leaving it on

overnight *after* heavy use that day, and it was still working the next day.

They cannot be quick-charged (which tends to mean an early grave for ni-cads if done often).

Many rigs can charge the ni-cads while running off of 12 volts from the car. Renewals won't do this.

I'd say they would work well for amateur radio, given that you live with the FCC regs requiring *only as much power as necessary for the desired communications*.

--

While (its_not_working())
 mess_with_it();

John Welch, N9JZW
jjw@seastar.org

Date: 17 Jun 1994 21:29:57 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!news.aero.org!news2.aero.org!
greenberg-t.aero.org!user@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: 220 -- Boston to Cape Cod
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

HI

We will be traveling to Cape Cod this summer, via Boston, and would like to hear about the 220 mhz activity in this area. Repeaters, and repeater coverages would be helpful. We will be driving from Logan Airport late at nite to the Cape, and it would be helpful to know of any repeaters in the area where one may find directions if needed. Tnx & 73.

WA6TAF
Steve

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 1994 19:22:57 GMT
From: news2.near.net!das-news.harvard.edu!husc-news.harvard.edu!hsdndev!admii!
ovation!ramcad.pica.army.mil!mellis@yale.arpa
Subject: Datapoint for NJ Ham plates
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I posted a message here a week or so ago, about how long it takes NJ to crank out license plates with my callsign. I got a couple of responses, around 12-13 weeks. I checked, and it's 13 weeks now.

Feels similar to the waiting anxiety I felt while waiting for the

license. Nothing like the stress you feel that split second before you open the mailbox :-) Of course, I can now whine about it on the local repeater. (Right, Seth???)

According to last Sunday's paper, NJ is issuing special plates for any damn thing, so the office that handles them are probably swamped. Hard to believe, but NJ has special plates for "Penn State Alumni".

Just updating anyone who is interested, and thanks to the few who responded.

```
=====
Mark E. Ellis                                     <mellis@ramcad.pica.army.mil>
    Systems Administrator, PA&TD Software Quality Engineering Branch
SMCAR-QAH-A, Bldg 62N, (201) 724-5817      N2WZB      Picatinny Arsenal, NJ
```

```
-----
Date: 17 Jun 1994 13:48:01 -0400
From: newstf01.cr1.aol.com!search01.news.aol.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: FCC licensing delay reason
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
```

In article <199406162011.PAA08843@news.cs.utexas.edu>, johnsoj@autsb.allied.com (Jeff Johnson) writes:

```
>>> He informed me that the FCC is rewriting the software which
prints
>>> technician licenses to indicate whether or not the technician has
>>> passed the code test or not.
```

Does this mean that people entering as Novice Class operators will not experience the delay that no-code Techs have been experiencing?

Just wondering, since I'm just now at the point where I feel comfortable with 5 WPM code and think that if the above is true I'll go for my Novice ticket and upgrade to tech later. This way all I have to do is append my callsign and there's no extra wait!

--- David

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Date: 17 Jun 94 16:38:18 GMT
From: ncrgw2.ncr.com!ncrhub2!tdbunews!nsc32!wps@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Henry Radio Service phone number
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
```

I just called Henry Radio, since it is a local call from me, and asked the operator for the Service Departments telephone number.

The local number, you have to pay is: (310) 820-1234
this is a voice response with menu options.

The number you want (toll free) 1-800-877-7979 ext. 240
will get you the Service Department.

Bill

```
+-----+
| Bill Starkgraf                                wps@ElSegundoCA.ncr.com |
| AT&T Global Information Solutions              (310) 524-5754          |
| El Segundo, CA                               (800) 222-8372 x5754        |
|                                                |
| Call: KD6UQB                                Simi Settlers ARC        |
|                                                Simi Valley, CA          |
+-----+
```

Date: 17 Jun 1994 19:36:04 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!zip.eecs.umich.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!news.kei.com!ssd.intel.com!chnews!cmoore@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Icom 22-S info needed
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

George Rybicki (seryb@lims01.lerc.nasa.gov) wrote:

: Finally is there a way to get down to the repeaters below 146 mhz.

Hi George, send for info for 144.62-148 MHz coverage in 5KHz steps from
Don, KE6AJH, of TechnoLogic Concepts at:

TLCDHCONSULT@DELPHI.COM

73, KG7BK, OOTC, CecilMoore@delphi.com

Date: 17 Jun 1994 19:40:34 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!
newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!news1.oakland.edu!vela.acs.oakland.edu!
prvalko@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Simplex spaving on 2mtr
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Regardless of the repeater channel spacing (here in Michigan it's 20KHz) simplex spacing (or spaving, if you will) remains 15KHz.

Time Out for a rec.radio.amateur.misc "PET PEAVE"

Heard on the repeater:

"Where are you?"
"Uhhhh... 3rd and Walnut"
"Oh that's close! Wanna try simplex?"

I think to myself, "Whoa! That's cool! Nobody does that anymore!"
Then I hear...

"Sure... where do you want to go?"
"Uhhh... Five-Two?"
"O-kay! See you there! blah-blah... clear"

Not that going to .52 is an evil thing, but I guess I still think of it as a "calling" channel... even if it's dead most of the time. I think that if you have invested in a multi-VFO, extened rcv/(tx), multi-hundred dollar radio... you COULD try something like .55 or .58 or 7.42

73 =paul= wb8zjl

Date: 17 Jun 1994 19:20:11 GMT
From: swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.msfc.nasa.gov!
news.larc.nasa.gov!lerc.nasa.gov!kira.cc.uakron.edu!malgudi.oar.net!news.ysu.edu!
yfn.ysu.edu!@ihnp4.ucsd.edu
Subject: Tech+ license issued.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I was very much surprised when I looked at my mail yesterday afternoon. There, in an envelope with a FCC return address, was a new license issued to me with a class of 'TECH PLUS'! I had passed my 5 wpm cw test in March, collected my CSCE, and merrily went home to try out my new (to me) HF transceiver. (Upon which it rolled over and played dead, but that's another story :- () I had heard (read here) that the FCC had plans to record this 'upgrade', but didn't expect to receive anything from them. I just planned on keeping my CSCE proudly on display in the shack until I upgraded to General. Anyway, I'm here now to attest to the fact that the FCC is now issuing new licenses to people who upgrade from

TECHNICIAN to TECH PLUS.

73 (no 's')

--

Bill Lindberg
au919@yfn.ysu.eduam257@freenet.hsc.colorado.edu**KC5FKN**

Date: 17 Jun 1994 21:26:53 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
hobbes.physics.uiowa.edu!newsfeed.ksu.ksu.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!cncis1.unl.edu!
unlinfo.unl.edu!gbrown@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Waiting Period
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Subject: Re: ** WAITING PERIOD FOR LICENSE ?? **

Here's some real data:

My wife took her test Feb. 26. Her ticket came yesterday, June 16.

Her ticket was Tech-Plus. A couple of others who took the test at the same time got their tickets about 2-3 weeks ago, so they _may_ be batching them in license class before processing(???)

Since I talked my wife into taking the code, she has blamed me for the extra wait! What's a guy supposed to do???

Greg WB0RTK
gbrown@unlinfo.unl.edu

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 1994 18:59:51 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!news.clark.edu!
netnews.nwnet.net!ns1.nodak.edu!plains!jomurphy@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Wanted: ND Frequencies for...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Date: 17 Jun 94 16:22:47 GMT
From: ncrgw2.ncr.com!ncrhub2!tdbunews!nsc32!wps@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Yaesu phone no.???
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The main telephone number to Yaesu is:

(310) 404-2700

You will get a voice menu that will step you through choices such as
customer service / technical support
sales
parts

Sorry I did not have the direct number here in the office, I is at home with
all my Yaesu stuff, but this number is just as good.

73's

Bill

```
+-----+
| Bill Starkgraf                wps@ElSegundoCA.ncr.com |
| AT&T Global Information Solutions (310) 524-5754      |
| El Segundo, CA                (800) 222-8372 x5754    |
|                               |                       |
| Call: KD6UQB                  Simi Settlers ARC      |
|                               Simi Valley, CA        |
+-----+
```

Date: 17 Jun 1994 21:36:24 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!casbah.acns.nwu.edu!jweiss@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: You know its time to retire from the hobby when....
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994Jun16.134637.8178@mixcom.mixcom.com>,
kevin jessup <kevin.jessup@mixcom.mixcom.com> wrote:

>
>Your 5-year-old son picks up your HT and says, "SQB monitoring!"
>

Your 4 year old Daughter picks up you HT calls and "KB9AHQ FROM WB9MRI"
and her mother answers....

Jerry Weiss - WB9MRI

--

Jerry S. Weiss
j-weiss@nwu.edu
Dept. Medicine, Northwestern Univ. Medical School, Chicago, Illinois
%SYSTEM-S-PHALOKTARG, Phasers Locked on Target, Ready to Fire

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 1994 22:56:46 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!news.csuohio.edu!
vmcms.csuohio.edu!R0264@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2tphjq\$e69@solaris.cc.vt.edu>, <CrHt93.AuK@fore.com>,
<2tpou0\$epj@cville-srv.wam.umd.edu>p
Subject : Re: You know its time to retire from the hobby when....

In article <2tpou0\$epj@cville-srv.wam.umd.edu>
ham@wam.umd.edu (Scott Richard Rosenfeld) writes:

>
>
>
>This has really happened to me:
>
>You're sitting outside somewhere, and you notice you've been hearing
>"0 0 0 0 0 0," just a constant string of the letter "0," and
>for quite some time. Not consciously - it just popped into your
>head - and you start to listen to the surroundings...
>
>And there's a bird singing "000H 000H 000H," over and over and over...
>
>--
>73,
> _____ The
> \ / Long Original
>Scott Rosenfeld Amateur Radio NF3I Burtonsville, MD | Live \$5.00
> WAC-CW/SSB WAS DXCC - 125 QSLed on dipoles _____| Dipoles! Antenna!

My printer identifies itself when I power up my computer system, as
di dah dah dit. Phil Emerson ---- AA8JO.

Date: 17 Jun 94 18:36:13 -0500
From: yale.edu!noc.near.net!news.tufts.edu!news.hnrc.tufts.edu!jerry@yale.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <rogjdCqy0Dv.620@netcom.com>, <2svtr6\$bba@newsserv.cs.sunysb.edu>,

<2tsj6n\$s81@sophia.inria.fr>u

Subject : Re: ** WAITING PERIOD FOR LICENSE ?? **

In article <2tsj6n\$s81@sophia.inria.fr>, jmhertz@puce.inria.fr (Jan-Martin Hertzsch) writes:

>

> But because this group already carries a lot of traffic, I would recommend
> you to restrict the distribution of articles concerning a special country
> or continent to the appropriate region. This will save a lot of bandwidth.
>

This is a provocative idea, not just for this newsgroup but for any newsgroup. I wonder how many posters know how to restrict distribution with their news readers. I have a key programmed to 'POST/HEADERS' but when I've used it in the past, I've found that others have followed-up to world to be followed by queries asking what the original post was about. I've got no problem going back to my 'POST/HEADERS' key, but I wonder what others think. I kinda like the traffic myself. I guess this topic isn't suitable for further discussion in this newsgroup, though.

Date: Fri, 17 Jun 1994 13:54:03 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!

magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!nshore!seastar!jjw@network.ucsd.edu

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <m0qDcP5-00007JC@crash.cts.com>, <32232@uswnvg.uswnvg.com>,

<CrHyDC.32E@wang.com>edu

Reply-To : jjw@seastar.seastar.org (John Welch)

Subject : Re: AEA IsoLoop - Opinions/Experiences

As quoted from <CrHyDC.32E@wang.com> by dbushong@wang.com (Dave Bushong):

> cjackso@uswnvg.com (Clay Jackson) writes:

>

> >Ronald H. Bafetti (baffer@pnet01.cts.COM) wrote:

> >: Anyone out there using (or familiar with someone who uses) the AEA IsoLoop
> >: antenna? It's kind of caught my fancy as a reasonable alternative to a
> >: full-sized beam. Is it the urban dweller's answer to casual QSOs in the
> >: 10-30MHz world?

>

> >I've got one in my attic, and it works great as far as I can tell. I've only
> >worked 10M, and if I can hear 'em I can work 'em.

>

> I agree - mine is on a ground-mounted tripod on a 10' pole, kind of
> hidden in a tall bush. Last night I busted a pileup on 14.015 and got
> him on my first call. That's sort of unusual, but it gives you an

> idea of how well it can perform.
> Dave, KZ10
>
> --
> Dave Bushong, Wang Laboratories, Inc.

For what it's worth, I have a much less enthusiastic tale...
An apartment-dwelling friend gave us his, that he was going to throw out. Another of his friends had one and *did* throw it out. We spent several hours removing the slop in the gearing and re-building the stepper time constant to allow finer control to make tuning a little easier.

Next day we had it on a 20 pole, and side-by-side with our moderately long (4.5MHz MARS length) slightly crooked dipole (at 10') we tried to check in on the Maritime net on 20M. With 100 watts we were at best occasionally audible. Went to the dipole and were coming in S-8.

It worked better than a wet noodle, but not by much. We sold it at the next ham-fest, after making sure the new owner knew it would be better than a resistor but not by much.

How about this as a test? Put a 50-ohm 200 watt dummy load in the air at 40 feet, and see how well you get out? You'll be amazed.

BTW other problems we had was the receive using the Iso-loop was down about 2 S units from the dipole, and we had to turn off all the computers because RF was getting into everything. Even with the slower stepping, tuning was a real pain in the bum. And I still have guilt feelings about selling it to somebody who thought he was getting a good deal.

--

While (its_not_working())
 mess_with_it();

John Welch, N9JZW
jjw@seastar.org

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #677
